Exploration and Research, a constituent unit of the Department of Atomic Energy has identified 1,03,730 tonnes of Uranium Resources (U308).

(b) to (d) The possibility of a suitably structured Private Public.Partnership (PPP) with Uranium Corporation of India Limited (UCIL) for exploitation of Uranium is under consideration. However, no decision has been taken on the same.

Review of availability of Uranium

1800. SMT. SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to initiate a complete review of the availability of Uranium to fuel its nuclear power plants in the wake of the successful culmination of the Indo-US agreement for peaceful use of nuclear power;

(b) whether India is likely to acquire economically viable Uranium deposits abroad to exploit them for peaceful domestic use, apart from setting up new Uranium exploration and extraction projects in six States; and

(c) whether these proposals were contained in a presentation by the Department of Atomic Energy to the Committee of Secretaries in December, 2006?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) The Government periodically reviews the availability of Uranium to fuel its nuclear power plants. This is an ongoing exercise and is independent of the Indo-US nuclear agreement.

(b) No decision has been taken with regard to acquisition of Uranium deposits abroad.

(c) No, Sir. Strategies for speeding up further exploration and mining of Uranium were presented by the Department of Atomic Energy to the Committee of Secretaries.